Andhra Pradesh to study the problems faced by weavers. The State Government have also informed that steps are proposed to be taken for assisting the weavers under PMRY, Artisan Credit Cards, Employment Generation Programme, Netha Bazaars, Weavers Housing Programme and Old Age Pension Scheme.

The Government of India is also implementing a number of schemes for the development of handloom sector and welfare of the handloom weavers. Assistance is being extended to State Governments and other implementing agencies under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Prothsahan Yojana, Handloom Export Scheme, Marketing Promotion Programme, Design Development & Training Programme, Integrated Handloom Training Programme, Mill Gate Price Scheme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Weavers Welfare Scheme, Bunkar Bima Yojana, Implementation of Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act 1985 and 10% Rebate on Handloom products.

An amount of Rs. 154.56 crore has been provided under the Plan Schemes for the handloom sector in 2004-05, out of which an amount of Rs. 67.36 crore has been released as on 10.12.2004.

Revival of National Jute Manufacturers Corporation

1417. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the accumulated loss of National Jute Manufacturers Corporation since 2000;

(b) the reasons analysed for the loss; and

(c) the reasons why VRS is not being implemented/given to several willing workers and the steps taken for revival?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA):

(a) The accumulated loss of National Jute Manufacturers Corporation (NJMC) since 31.3.2000 is as follows:

	(Rs. in Crores)
31.3.2000	Rs. 2441.93
31.3.2001	Rs. 2762.61
31.3.2002	Rs. 3126.94
31.3.2003	Rs. 3554.87
31.3.2004	Rs. 3991.99

(b) The reasons for the loss are as follows:

1. Under utilization of installed capacity.
2. Legacy of surplus labour from pre-takeover period coupled with industry wise upward wage revision since 1984.
3. Higher man days per Ton compared to achieved average of the jute industry.
4. Destruction of sizeable production capacity in unit national due to devastating fire in August 1986.
5. Erosion of working capital due to continued cash losses.
6. Inability to have a product mix depending on the prices available in the market.
7. Inability of management, officers and workers to seize the opportunities of the market and work with commitment and devotion.
8. Lack of modernization and renovation of existing machinery due to financial crunch.

(c) Government is considering a strategic option for revival of certain units of NJMC towards which a High Powered Committee has been constituted. VRS may constitute a part of this overall restructuring of the NJMC.

Earning From Export of Textiles

1418. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite an increase in the total textiles forex earnings by 6 per cent, the net export earnings from textiles shrunk by 3.2 per cent in 2003-04;